

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#14 C/BM
8-16-00

In re Application of:)
)
Jonnie R. WILLIAMS)
)
Serial No. 09/397,018) Group Art Unit: 1731
)
Filed: September 15, 1999) Examiner: M. Colaianni
)
For: IMPROVED METHOD OF TREATING) Atty. Dkt. No.: 04859.84703
TOBACCO TO REDUCE NITROSAMINE)
CONTENT, AND PRODUCTS PRODUCED)
THEREBY)

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

AUG 14 2000

RECEIVED

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

The Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed May 1, 2000 and further to Applicant's Amendment and Response submitted on August 9, 2000, please enter the following amendment and reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the following remarks.

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 53 as follows.

53. (amended) A process of substantially preventing the formation of at least one nitrosamine in a harvested tobacco plant, the process comprising:

drying at least a portion of the plant, while said portion is uncured, yellow, and in a state susceptible to having the formation of nitrosamines arrested, in a controlled environment and for a time sufficient to substantially prevent the formation of said at least one nitrosamine;